

Minutes of the Delta Protection Commission  
March 22, 2012

Antioch Historical Society  
1500 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Antioch, California 94509

**ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order/Flag Salute.**

Chair Nottoli called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

**2. Roll Call.**

Present: Chair Nottoli; Commissioners Eggman, Ferguson, Ferrara, McGowan, Mitchoff (for Piepho), Reagan, Scriven, and van Loben Sels.

Absent: Commissioners Bugsch, Cabaldon, Ruhstaller, and Schubert.

**3. Public Comment.**

Satinder Malhti, East County Liaison for Senator Mark DeSaulnier welcomed the Commission to the 7<sup>th</sup> Senate District and thanked the Commission for its advocacy in the Delta.

Darlene Dawson, Antioch noted that the California Department of Boating and Waterways was scheduled for elimination. Ms. Dawson asked for the Commission's help in saving the department. Mike Machado responded that the Department was listed in the Governor's budget, not for elimination, but for reorganization under the Department of Parks and Recreation.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**4. Approve Minutes of January 26, 2012.**

**5. Receive Annual Report to the Governor and the Legislature on the Significant Accomplishments of the Commission for the Year 2011.**

**6. Receive Update on the Draft National Heritage Area Feasibility Study, Including Comments Provided by the National Parks Service.**

**7. Receive Informational Update on the Delta Working Landscapes Program Developed and Administered by the Commission in Partnership with Ducks Unlimited and Hart Restoration.**

Vice Chair Reagan moved approval of the Consent Agenda; Commissioner Mitchoff seconded. The Consent Agenda was approved unanimously by voice vote.

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **8. Receive Update on the Great California Delta Trail**

#### **A. Receive Presentation From East Bay Regional Park District Staff.**

Jim Townsend, East Bay Regional Parks (EBRPD) reported that the Delta Trail was legislation was proposed by then Senator Torlakson and EBRPD was an early adopter of the trail and has a number to projects to implement the project. The trail will extend from Sacramento down to the Benicia Bridge, and EBRPD is currently in the process of developing sections between Bay Point and Downtown Pittsburg; in addition to working with PG&E. Mr. Townsend asked that the Commission adopt the EBRPD alignment of the Delta Trail as the formal alignment through Contra Costa County. The adoption will assist EBRPD in efforts to secure additional funding to complete other segments.

Commissioner Reagan asked how the Commission would move forward with isolated paths. Mr. Machado responded that Commission staff is participating in Hwy 12 widening discussions, and the Commission would be sending a letter to Caltrans to ask that bike lanes be incorporated.

Commissioner Mitchoff moved to adopt the Contra Costa County Trail alignment; Commissioner Reagan seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

#### **B. Adopt Alignment of the Sacramento River Parkway as a Segment of the Delta Trail, and Delta Trail Logo Marker be Placed Onto Existing Trails.**

Alex Westhoff asked that the Commission adopt the Sacramento River Parkway alignment. The alignment is a 13 mile stretch of trail from Discovery Park to the south end of the Pocket area. Once adopted, Delta Trail signs would be installed.

Commissioner Nottoli moved approval of the adoption of the River Parkway alignment; Commissioner McGowan seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

#### **C. Receive Update on the Blueprint Report Underway for Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Yolo Counties.**

Commissioner van Loben Sels asked that more time is spent on the remaining counties because the lands are in the Primary Zone. He stated that representatives from the Farm Bureaus, Stonelakes, and the Nature Conservancy should be brought into the planning discussions, and he said he does not believe lines in the ground and/or maps should be shown.

Commissioner McGowan stated that Yolo County has conceptualized support on the trails however, the county does not want to be a victim of everyone's ire.

Mark Wilson, Clarksburg asked that all public safety, reclamation districts and sheriff departments be noticed for any meetings.

Campbell Ingram stated that the Delta Conservancy is engaging in fellows to draft a paper for enforcement in the Delta and the report should be related in May 2012.

**9. Receive Update on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Regional Flood Response Project.**

Mr. Machado reported that the application process for the Flood Response grant has been pushed back, therefore, the Commission would be filing an application in the fall.

Commissioner Ferrara stated that the application should have a strong definition of the Commission's role and timeline, as that would help with funding.

Commissioner van Loben Sels moved approval of the Flood Response Grant Application; Commissioner Reagan seconded. The motion was approved 8:0:1. (Commissioner Ferrara abstained).

**10. Receive Update on H.R. 1837.**

Mr. Machado gave an update on the legislation moving through Congress. He said that many groups have taken a stance against the legislation and asked that the Commission approve a letter of opposition.

Commissioner Ferrara stated that the Resources Agency sent a letter and he was glad to see the Commission taking action.

Commissioner Mitchoff asked that the letter be strongly worded.

David Travers, City of Oakley asked that the Commission speak with the Senate hierarchy.

Commissioner McGowan moved to write a letter of opposition to H.R. 1837; Commissioner Reagan seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

**11. Discuss the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan the Delta Reform Act (SB X7-1), and Possible Recommendations or Actions By the Commission.**

See agenda item 12.

**12. Receive Report From the Executive Director, Including Informational Updates On Delta Stewardship Council and Delta Conservancy Activities and Other Delta Initiatives.**

Mr. Machado reported that the Commission completed the Economic Sustainability Plan and submitted the proposal to the Delta Stewardship Council. He also reported that the 6<sup>th</sup> (and last) staff draft of the Delta Plan should be released in April. He also reported that staff is in discussions with San Joaquin County regarding an appeal on an easement for a solar wind farm.

Campbell Ingram, Delta Conservancy announced that the Conservancy was drafting its first strategic plan and is in talks with the Commission about coordination and overlapping roles. He asked the Commissioners for comments.

**13. Receive Informational Presentation From Craig Wilson, Delta Watermaster, Appointed By the State Water Board Pursuant to the Provision of SB X7-1.**

Mr. Wilson presented a slide presentation which included a background on the 2008 Bay/Delta Strategic Workplan, Delta Compliance and enforcement activities, investigations on irrigated parcels other delta areas, and future efforts.

**14. Comments and Announcements From Members of the Commission.**

Commissioner Eggman reported that San Joaquin County has assembled a coalition and hired a lobbyist to testify to the Delta Stewardship Council regarding the Delta Plan.

Jessica Tucker-Mohl, Office of the Attorney General introduced Hanna Goldsmith. Ms. Goldsmith is working as a legal intern for the Attorney General's Office.

Commissioner Ferguson announced that the Asparagus Festival would take place April 27-29, 2012 in Stockton.

**15. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.